

ANE SHORTE AND GENERAL CON- fession of the trewe Christiane Fayth and Religion, according to Godis word

and actis of our Parliamentis, Sub'criued be the Kings Maiestie and his houtholde, with sundrie vtheries. To
the glorie of God and good exemple of all men. At Edinburgh the Twentie eyght day of
Januarie. The yere of God. Ane Thousand. Fyue Hundreth. Fourescore yairs.
And the fourtene yair of his Maiesties Regne.



E all and euerie one of vs vnderwritten protest, that after

long and dewe examination of our owne Consciencis, in matters of trewe and fals Reli-
gion, are now througely resolued in the trueth, by the worde and spirit of God. And
therefoze we beleue with our heartis, confesse with our mouches, Subscriue with our
hands, and constantly affirme befoze God and the whole worlde. That this onely is the
true Christian Faith and Religion, pleasing God, and bringing Saluation to man,
quhilk is now by the mercy of God reueled to the worlde, by the preaching of the blessed
Euangell. And is receaued, beleued, and defended by many and sundrie notable Kirkis
and Realmes, but chiefly by the Kirk of Scotland, The Kings Maiestie & thze Estates
of this Realme, As Gods eternall trueth, and onely grounde of our Saluation, as moze
particularly is exprest in the confession of our Faith, stablished and publicly confirmed by sundrie actis of Parlia-
mentis, and now of a long time hath bene openly professed by the Kings Maiestie, and whole body of this Realme, both
in burgh and land. To the quhilk confession and forme of Religion, we willingly agree in our consciencis in al poynts,
as vnto Gods vndoubted trueth and veritie, grounded onely vpon his written worde. And therefore we abhorre
and detest all contrarie religion and doctrine, but chiefly all kinde of Papistrie in generall and particuler headis, euen
as they are nowe damned and confuted by the worde of God and kirk of Scotlande, but inspeciall we detest and
refuse the vsurped authoritie of that Romane Antichrist vpon the Scriptures of God. vpon the Kirk the ciuile ma-
gistrate and conscience of men. All his tyrannous Lawes made vpon indifferent thinges, agaynst our Christiane
libertie. His erroneous doctrine agaynst the sufficiencye of the written worde, the perfection of the lawe, the office
of Christ, and his blessed Euangell. His corrupted doctrine concerning originall sinne, our naturall inabilitie and
rebellion to Gods lawe. Our iustification by Faith onely. Our imperfect sanctification and obedience to the lawe,
the nature, number and vse of the holie Sacraments. His fyue bastard Sacraments, with all his rytis, ceremonies, and
fals doctrine added to the ministracion of the trewe Sacraments without the word of God. His cruel Iudgement against
Infants departing without the Sacrament, his absolute necessitie of Baptisme, his blasphemous opinion of transsub-
stantiation, or reall presence of Christis body in the elements, and receauing of the same by the wicked, or boveis of mē.
His dispensations with solemnet othes, Periureis, and degrees of marriage forbidden in the worde, his crueltie against
the Innocent deuorced, His diuillish Masse, his blasphemous Priestheid, his prophane sacrifice for the sinnes of the
dead and the quick. His Canonization of men, calling vpon Angels, or Saintis departed, worshipping of Imagrie,
relicks, and croces, dedicating of Kirks, Altars, Daxis, Vowes to creatures. His Purgatorie, prayers for the deid,
praying or speaking in a strange language, with his processions and blasphemous letante, and multitude of Advocats
or Mediatouris. His manifold ordouris, Articulare confession, his despered and uncerteine repentance, his generall
and doubtfull faith, his satisfactions of men for their synnes, his Iustification by workes, Opus Operatum, workes of su-
pererogation, merit, pardones, peregrinationis and stationis, his holy watter, Baptising of Bellis, Coniuring of spi-
ritis, Crossing, Saning, Anointing, Coniuring, Hallowing of godis good Creatures, with the superstitious opinion
ioyned therewith, his warloly Monarchie, and wicked hierarchie, his thye solemnised vowes, with all his hauellings of
sundrie soyes. His erroneous and bloodie decreis maid at Trent, with al the subscriuers and approuers of that cruel
and bloody band, coniured against the Kirk of God. And finally we detest all his vaine allegories, Ritis, signes, and
traditiones brought in the kirk without, or against the word of God and doctrine of this trewe reformed Kirk. To the
quhilk we ioyne our selues willingly, in doctrine, Faith, Religion, Discipline and vse of the holie Sacraments, as lyue-
lie members of the same in Christ our head, promising and swearing by the great Name of the Lord our God, that we
shall continue in the obedience of the doctrine and discipline of this Kirk, and shall defend the same according to our vo-
cation and power, all the dayes of our lyues, vnder the paynes contened in the law, and danger both of body, and soule, in
the day of Gods fearefull Iudgement. And seeing that many are styred vp by Satan, and that Romane Antichrist,
to promes, sweare, subscriue, and for a time vse the holie Sacraments in the Kirk deceatfully against their owne con-
science, minding hereby, First vnder the externall Cloke of Religion, to corrupt and subuert secretly Gods trewe Reli-
gion within the Kirk, and afterward when tyme may serue, to become open enemyes and persecuters of the same, vnder
vaine hope of the Popes dispensacion deuised against the worde of God, to his greater confusion, and their double
condemnation in the day of the Lord Iesus, We therefore willing to take away all suspicion of hypocrisie, and of sic
double dealing with God and his Kirk, protest and call the searcher of all hearts for witness, that our minds and heartis
doe fully agree with this our confession, promise, othe, and Subscription. So that we are not moued for any worldlie
respect, but are perswaded onely in our conscience, through the knowledge and loue of Gods trewe Religion, printed in
our hearts by the holie Spirit, as we shall answer to him in the day when the secretes of all heartis shalbe disclosed.
And because we perceaue, that the quietnes and stabilitie of our Religion and Kirk doeth depend vpon the sauetye and
good behauiour of the Kings Maiestie, as vpon ane comfortable Instrument of Godis mercy, graunted to this Coun-
tre, for the maintening of his kirk, & ministracion of Justice amongs vs. We protest & promes with our heartis, vnder
the same othe, hand writ, and paynes, that we shal defend his person and authoritie, with our geit, boveis, and lyues, in the
defence of Christis Euangel, Libertie of our Countrey, ministracion of Justice, and punishment of Iniquitie against al
enemyes within this Realme or without, as we desyre our God to be a strong and mercifull defender to vs, in the day of
our death, and cumming of our Lord Iesus Christ. *Witness with the Father and the holie Spirit, be all honour
and glorie eternally. Amen.*

A. 23 Elizabeth

*The Kings Maiesties charge to all Commissioners and Ministers
within this Realme.*

Seing, that we and our Houtholde haue subscribed and geuen this publict confession of our Faith, to the good exemple
of our Subiectis. We command and charge all Commissioners and Ministers, to craue the same confession of their
parochinars, and proceed against the refusers, according to our Lawes and order of the Kirk, deliqueting their names
and lawful proccesse to the Ministers of our house, with all haste and diligence, vnder the payne of xl. pound, to be taken
from their stipend, that we with the aduise of our Counsel may take ourdour with sic proud contemners of God and our
lawes. Subscriued with our hand. At Holprudhous, (1580) the 2 day of March, the 14 yair of our regne.

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